CLAIMS

We claim:

1. 1. A method in a computing system for managing inventory, the method
2.   comprising:
3.   extracting inventory location information in a first form that is associated with
4.   a first source computerized inventory management system;
5.   converting the inventory location information in the first form into inventory
6.   location information that is in a second intermediate form; and
7.   converting the inventory location information in the second intermediate form
8.   into inventory location information in a target form that corresponds to
9.   a target computerized inventory management system.

1. 2. The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
2.   using the inventory location information in the target form to perform at least
3.   one computer-implemented act from a set of computer-implemented
4.   acts comprising:
5.   creating a new inventory location record in the target computerized
6.   inventory management system; and
7.   updating an existing inventory location record in the target
8.   computerized inventory management system.

1. 3. The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
2.   extracting inventory location information in a third form that is associated with
3.   a second source computerized inventory management system that is

4	distinct from the first source computerized inventory management
5	system;
6	converting the inventory location information in the third form into inventory
7	location information that is in the second intermediate form;
8	converting the inventory location information in the second intermediate form
9	into inventory location information in the target form; and
10	using the inventory location information in the target form to perform at least
11	one computer-implemented act from a set of computer-implemented
12	acts comprising:
13	creating a new inventory location record in the target computerized
14	inventory management system; and
15	updating an existing inventory location record in the target
16	computerized inventory management system.

1	4.	The method of Claim 1, wherein the second intermediate form includes a list
2		of inventory locations class with a hierarchy of data elements.

1	5.	The method of Claim 4, wherein the hierarchy of data elements includes a
2		plurality of inventory location elements, wherein each of the plurality of
3		inventory location elements includes:
4		an identifier for identifying the inventory location element;
5		a base data element for defining:
6		a location description;
7		a location name; and
8		a location type code;
9		a list of addresses element for defining a plurality of address elements from a
10		party class;

11		a list of related business units elements for defining a plurality of business
12		units associated with the inventory, and wherein each of the plurality
13		of business units associated with the inventory includes an identifier
14		element;
15		a list of related inventory locations for defining a plurality of related inventory
16		locations; and
17		a custom data element for defining customized attributes for the inventory.

1	6.	The method of Claim 5, wherein each of the plurality of address elements
2		includes:
3		an address identifier element;
4		an address base data element, wherein the address data cleansing
5		data element includes a disable cleansing flag element;
6		an address data cleansing data element;
7		an address relationship data element; and
8		an address custom data element.

1	7.	The method of Claim 6, wherein the address relationship data element
2		includes:
3		an address effective end date element;
4		an address occupancy type code element;
5		an address effective start date element;
6		an address type code element; and
7		an address list of roles element.

1	8.	The method of Claim 5, wherein each of the plurality of related inventory
2		locations include a related inventory location identifier element and a related
3		inventory location type code element.

1   9.   A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions

2   for managing inventory, wherein execution of the one or more sequences of

3   instructions by one or more processors causes the one or more processors to

4   perform:

5   extracting inventory location information in a first form that is associated with

6   a first source computerized inventory management system;

7   converting the inventory location information in the first form into inventory

8   location information that is in a second intermediate form; and

9   converting the inventory location information in the second intermediate form

10   into inventory location information in a target form that corresponds to

11   a target computerized inventory management system.

1   10.   The computer-readable medium of Claim 9, further comprising:

2   using the inventory location information in the target form to perform at least

3   one computer-implemented act from a set of computer-implemented

4   acts comprising:

5   creating a new inventory location record in the target computerized

6   inventory management system; and

7   updating an existing inventory location record in the target

8   computerized inventory management system.

1   11.   The computer-readable medium of Claim 9, further comprising:

2   extracting inventory location information in a third form that is associated with

3   a second source computerized inventory management system that is

4   distinct from the first source computerized inventory management

5   system;

6   converting the inventory location information in the third form into inventory

7   location information that is in the second intermediate form;

8   converting the inventory location information in the second intermediate form

9   into inventory location information in the target form; and

10   using the inventory location information in the target form to perform at least

11   one computer-implemented act from a set of computer-implemented

12   acts comprising:

13   creating a new inventory location record in the target computerized

14   inventory management system; and

15   updating an existing inventory location record in the target

16   computerized inventory management system.

1   12.   The computer-readable medium of Claim 9, wherein the second intermediate

2   form includes a list of inventory locations class with a hierarchy of data

3   elements.

1   13.   The computer-readable medium of Claim 12, wherein the hierarchy of data

2   elements includes a plurality of inventory location elements which include

3   other elements.

1   14.   The computer-readable medium of Claim 13, wherein each of the plurality of

2   inventory location elements includes an identifier for identifying the inventory

3   location element;

1   15.   The computer-readable medium of Claim 13, wherein each of the plurality of

2   inventory location elements includes a base data element for defining:

3   a location description;

4   a location name; and

5   a location type code.

1   16.   The computer-readable medium of Claim 13, wherein each of the plurality of

2   inventory location elements includes a list of addresses element for defining

3   a plurality of address elements from a party class.

1   17.   The computer-readable medium of Claim 13, wherein each of the plurality of

2   inventory location elements includes a list of related business units elements

3   for defining a plurality of business units associated with the inventory.

1   18.   The computer-readable medium of Claim 13, wherein each of the plurality of

2   inventory location elements includes a list of related inventory locations for

3   defining a plurality of related inventory locations.

1   19.   The computer-readable medium of Claim 13, wherein each of the plurality of

2   inventory location elements includes a custom data element for defining

3   customized attributes for the inventory.

1   20.   The computer-readable medium of Claim 16, wherein each of the plurality of

2   address elements includes:

3   an address identifier element;

4   an address base data element;

5   an address data cleansing data element;

6   an address relationship data element; and

7   an address custom data element.

1   21.   The computer-readable medium of Claim 20, wherein the address data

2   cleansing data element includes a disable cleansing flag element.

1 22. The computer-readable medium of Claim 20, wherein the address
2   relationship data element includes:
3   an address effective end date element;
4   an address occupancy type code element;
5   an address effective start date element;
6   an address type code element; and
7   an address list of roles element.

1 23. The computer-readable medium of Claim 17, wherein each of the plurality of
2   business units associated with the inventory includes an identifier element.

1 24. The computer-readable medium of Claim 18, wherein each of the plurality of
2   related inventory locations include a related inventory location identifier
3   element and a related inventory location type code element.

1 25. A data structure for managing inventory, the data structure comprising a list
2   of inventory locations class with a hierarchy of data elements, wherein the
3   hierarchy of data elements includes a plurality of inventory location elements
4   which include other elements.

1 26. The data structure of Claim 25, wherein each of the plurality of inventory
2   location elements includes:
3   an identifier for identifying the inventory location element; and
4   a base data element for defining:
5   a location description;
6   a location name; and
7   a location type code.

1   27.   The data structure of Claim 25, wherein each of the plurality of inventory

2   location elements includes;

3   a list of addresses element for defining a plurality of address elements from a

4   party class;

5   a list of related business units elements for defining a plurality of business

6   units associated with the inventory;

7   a list of related inventory locations for defining a plurality of related inventory

8   locations; and

9   a custom data element for defining customized attributes for the inventory.

1   28.   The data structure of Claim 27, wherein each of the plurality of address

2   elements includes:

3   an address identifier element;

4   an address base data element;

5   an address data cleansing data element;

6   an address relationship data element; and

7   an address custom data element.

1   29.   The data structure of Claim 28, wherein the address data cleansing data

2   element includes a disable cleansing flag element.

1   30.   The data structure of Claim 28, wherein the address relationship data

2   element includes:

3   an address effective end date element;

4   an address occupancy type code element;

5   an address effective start date element;

6   an address type code element; and

7   an address list of roles element.

1   31.   The data structure of Claim 27, wherein each of the plurality of business units

2   associated with the inventory includes an identifier element.

1   32.   The data structure of Claim 27, wherein each of the plurality of related

2   inventory locations include a related inventory location identifier element and

3   a related inventory location type code element.